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Yevgeny Y. (Lt. Col.)

RUSS SPY AGENCIES

Intelligence Is Described

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WASHINGTON — The Soviet Union's State Security Committee, which is the nation's principal intelligence agency, employs 600,000 to 1 million people inside and outside the Soviet Union, according to Western estimates.

Only one of its divisions, the First Chief Directorate for foreign intelligence, is comparable in function to the Central Intelligence Agency. This division was the one in charge of Lt. Col. Yevgeny Y. Runge, an agent who recently defected to the United States.

OTHER FUNCTIONS

Other functions handled by the Soviet State Security Committee have their equivalents in the United States in the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the National Security Agency, the Secret Service, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Bureau of Customs.

Thus, the Soviet agency is also concerned with internal security and subversive activity. When it feels it necessary, it observes Soviet citizens and foreign residents at their places of work and in their private activities.

The agency cracks codes and communications used by other governments, provides bodyguards for high political figures and manages technical laboratories to devise new equipment for intelligence and other purposes. The 200,000 border guards also fall under the control of the security apparatus.

HOUSE ORGAN

The agency prints its own house organ, called Chekistsky Sbornik. The magazine has a select and limited circulation.

The present name of the State Security Committee, known in Russian as KGB for Komitet Gosudarstvennoi Bezopasnosti, dates from 1954. It is the successor organization to the security apparatus started by Lenin as the Cheka, then reorganized periodically under different names, represented by the initial, GPU, NKVD and MVD.

Its officers still refer to themselves as Chekists, a term both fearful and glamorous in the Russian context.

At times in Soviet history the security police have played a powerful role in the nation's politics, notably in the era from 1938 to 1953 when Lavrenti P. Beria headed the apparatus and served as one of Stalin's closest associates.

CONCERN SHOWN

Beria was executed within months of Stalin's death, and the post-Stalin leaders have shown marked concern about letting the security apparatus ever play the dominant role in policymaking that it achieved earlier.

Western analysts, however, consider the security agency at least as important as the military in the factional lineup of forces in Soviet politics. No longer an instrument of brute terror, the agency is still an awesome and mysterious organization.

From defectors and other sources, Western intelligence organizations have pieced together the structure of the Soviet agency and identified key personnel.

Officially, the agency is a government organization at ministry level. Since the Soviet government is secondary at every level to the Communist party structure, the true channel of authority is through the administrative organs section of the party's Central Committee Secretariat, headed by the general secretary, Leonid I. Brezhnev.

CLOSE ALLY

The present chairman of the Soviet agency is a close political ally of Brezhnev, Yuri V. Andropov, a professional party official. Andropov was named to this post last May in a shakeup that observers analyzed as a move to bring the agency more closely under Brezhnev's control.

Under the chairman are a series of chief directorates, each headed by an intelligence officer with the rank of major general or lieutenant general.

The First Chief Directorate, headed by Lt. Gen. Aleksandr M. Sakharovsky, employs about 10,000 persons in the collection and analysis of foreign intelligence.

The Second Chief Directorate is concerned with political subversive activities, economic espionage, sabotage and treason, embezzlement and thefts of government property. Some of its functions correspond to that of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, local police forces and regulatory agencies such as the Food and Drug Administration or the Narcotics Bureau. More than 100,000 agents are believed to report through this division. Lt. Gen. Oleg H. Gribanov has been the head of the Second Chief Directorate, though recent reports indicate he may have been replaced.

SENIOR PARTNER

The Third Directorate, headed by Maj. Gen. I.A. Fadeikin, was known during World War II as Smersh, an acronym for Russian words meaning "death to spies." It is charged with counter-intelligence within the Soviet armed forces. The State Security Committee is thus the senior partner, over the armed forces' own military intelligence agency or GRU since the security agents keep the military intelligence itself under surveillance. Counterintelligence in the U.S. armed services is a responsibility of the services themselves.

The Fourth, Fifth and Sixth Directorates are not known to exist now. Formerly they shared in the internal security responsibilities, dividing up political, economic and other crimes that have now been grouped under the Second Directorate.

The Seventh Chief Directorate is the division that carries out actual surveillance, the shadowing of suspicious persons, the clandestine penetration of offices and the recruitment of potential agents among foreigners. This division is known to employ 3,000 persons in Moscow alone. Guards at embassies and buildings where foreigners live in the Soviet capital report to the Seventh Directorate, headed by Maj. Gen. V. I. Aladin.

FUNCTIONS TOLD

The Eighth Chief Directorate, under Maj. Gen. Serafim N. Lyalin, performs functions similar to the National Security Agency of the United States, including code-breaking and surveillance of communications of foreign governments and citizens.

The Ninth Chief Directorate is headed by Maj. Gen. V. Y. Chekalov and provides personal security to leading members of the Soviet government and party. Its counterpart in the United States is the Secret Service.

A separate division directs the border guards, commanded by Lt. Gen. Pavel I. Zyryanov. Their closest equivalent in the United States is the Naturalization and Immigration Service. Like the U.S. Bureau of Customs, the border troops also guard against the importation of subversive literature.

There is an administrative and personnel division that manages the agency's headquarters on Moscow's Dzerzhinsky Square. The headquarters include Lubyanka Prison, where important prisoners are interrogated.

TECHNICAL LABS

Finally, the agency maintains technical laboratories and research facilities at Pushkino, northeast of Moscow, to devise new techniques and devices of surveillance, sabotage and analysis.

The First Directorate is directly involved with foreign governments, for this is the division that dispatches agents abroad.

Under General Sakharovsky

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